

In the Description

1. Please amend the title of the application as follows:

EXON 1 β OF PDGF RECEPTOR α GENE AND ~~UTILIZATION~~ USE THEREOF

2. Please replace the first paragraph under BACKGROUND ART on page 1, with the following amended paragraph:

Platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF) plays an important role in cell proliferation, development and differentiation, wound healing, malignant progression of cancer and arteriosclerosis, etc. It is therefore expected that regulation of PDGF signaling will lead to discovery of therapeutic agents for these diseases. As therapeutic agents, in fact, PDGF expression suppressors (refer to, e.g., Japanese Laid-Open Application No. 10-59850), inhibitors of binding between PDGF and PDGF receptor α (~~Japanese National Publication No. of International Patent Application No. 1996-13370~~ H8-500010 of PCT International Publication No. WO 93/23068), and tyrosine kinase inhibitor of PDGF receptor α (refer to, e.g., ~~Japanese National Publication No. of International Patent Application No. 2002-514228~~ of PCT International Publication No. WO 99/10325) have been proposed.